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overlap considerably ; whereas, according to our author's observations, areas for pain, heat and cold do not overlap perceptibly. They correspond closely to the area of trophic influence supplied by each spinal nerve, these latter being indicated by areas of eruption in herpes zoster. In connection with disease of any visceral organ, disturbances of dermal sensations for pain and temperature are likely to arise over sharply defined areas. Pain in these cases is projected peripherally by allocheiria, *i. e.*, pain in an insensitive portion, *e. g.*, a viscus, being projected to a more sensitive part, the skin, supplied from the same segment of the spinal cord. The present paper deals with arrangement of nerves and skin-areas below the clavicles. The author promises a paper in the near future to cover the region of head and neck.

Untersuchungen über die Entwicklung der Area und Fovea centralis retinae. J. H. CHIEVITZ. *Archiv für Anat. u. Entwicklungsgeschichte.* 1890, pp. 332-365. Plates XVIII.-XX.

Development of retinal elements, especially in the region of the area or fovea centralis, is outlined in four species of bird, viz., crow, finch, domestic pigeon and one of the gulls, *sterna cantiaca*, in one lizard, *lacerta vivipara*, and in a teleost, *sygnathus typhle*. The rabbit possesses no fovea proper, but an area centralis, "streifenförmig," which extends horizontally through the entire retina just below the entrance of the optic nerve. All the birds were found to have a central fovea well developed, and in the gull two foveas were demonstrated, a nasal and temporal, and in addition a "streifenförmige" fovea, which the author does not discuss. The lizard has no fovea, but a circular area centralis situated just above the optic papilla. A "punctförmige" fovea was demonstrated in *sygnathus* located caudad of the optic papilla, somewhat nearer the papilla than the ora serrata. The greater part of the posterior half of the retina is modified into an expanded area centralis having the fovea in its center. The fovea assumes its special characters late in embryonic life.

Untersuchungen über den electrischen Leitungswiderstand der thierischen Gewebe. K. ALT, AND SCHMIDT. *Archiv f. d. ges. Physiol.* Bd. LIII. S. 575. Taf. 13.

Recent work upon this subject has given currency to the idea that the fluids contained in a nerve cause its electrical resistance to be about that of the blood or lymph. The above paper tends to bring us back to the notions of the physiologists who wrote before it was demonstrated, that a nerve impulse is not an electrical current.

The method employed consisted in placing a given length of tissue in the circuit, composed of semi-circles of zinc and copper; contact completing the circuit on the other side being made by a micrometer screw. The zinc arc was connected to a friction machine, the copper with a water-pipe. The electricity generated could thus go to ground either through the tissue or through the micrometer screw. By manipulating the screw it was thus possible to measure the length of the spark, and this was taken to indicate the resistance.

Results of experiments on a large number of organs are given in a table at the end of their article. The following figures are extracted :